



# Latah County

October 2008

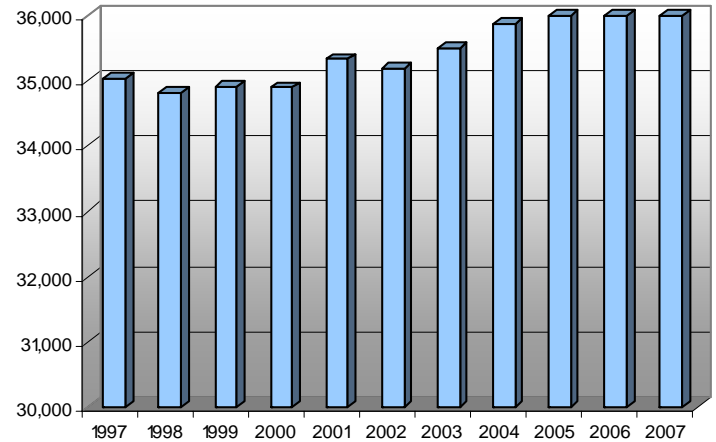
## Work Force Trends

### Population

Latah County's population grew 4 percent from 35,023 in 1997 to 36,299 in 2007, while the U.S. population grew 11 percent and Idaho's population grew 22 percent. Relatively slow job growth is the main reason for Latah County's slow population growth.

New registrations for driver's licenses show that about 6 percent of the people who move to Latah County are from foreign countries.

Moscow, the county seat, has a population of 23,200. The populations of the other incorporated cities are: Genesee, 890; Troy, 760; Potlatch, 740; Juliettea, 580; Deary, 540; Kendrick, 350; Bovill, 290; and Onaway, 210.

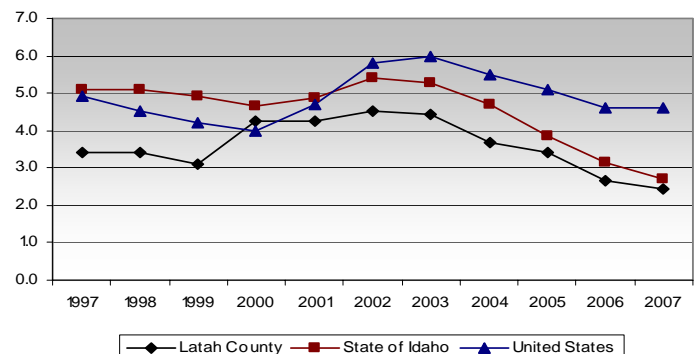


### Labor Force & Employment

The University of Idaho, established in 1889, employs one-third of the county's workers. It provides economic stability and insulates the county from national economic cycles. A significant economic indicator for Latah County is the size of the university's student population. Its enrollment approaches 12,000 students.

Manufacturing, retail stores, construction and health services have been the source of many new jobs in the last three years. Construction in Latah County managed to hold its own in 2007, despite a national drop in construction activity. Manufacturing is expected to grow in the next few years as computer software and hardware companies currently in Alturas Technology Park's business incubator expand and leave the incubator for larger facilities. Growing emphasis by the university on

Unemployment Rates



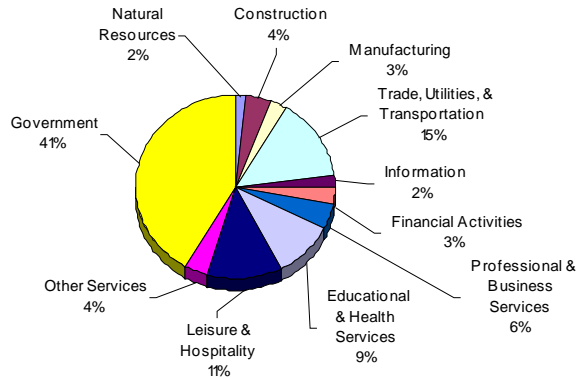
technology transfer also should bolster manufacturing and professional service employment. Technology transfer is taking new ideas and products developed by researchers and turning it into a practical application that creates jobs.

Retail stores and services benefit from enrollment growth at both the University of Idaho and Washington State University (with an enrollment of 24,000) just eight miles away in Pullman.

| Labor Force                 | Sep 2007 | Sep 2008 |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|
| Civilian Labor Force        | 17,927   | 17,848   |
| Total Employment            | 17,555   | 17,170   |
| Unemployed                  | 372      | 678      |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 2.1      | 3.8      |
| State of Idaho % Unemployed | 2.7      | 5.0      |
| U.S. % Unemployed           | 4.7      | 6.1      |

| Labor Force                 | 1997   | 1998   | 1999   | 2000   | 2001   | 2002   | 2003   | 2004   | 2005   | 2006   | 2007   |
|-----------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Civilian Labor Force        | 14,750 | 15,002 | 14,886 | 17,613 | 17,421 | 16,611 | 16,084 | 17,833 | 17,793 | 18,212 | 17,076 |
| Unemployment                | 500    | 514    | 459    | 748    | 737    | 750    | 712    | 657    | 604    | 483    | 413    |
| % of Labor Force Unemployed | 3.4    | 3.4    | 3.1    | 4.2    | 4.2    | 4.5    | 4.4    | 3.7    | 3.4    | 2.7    | 2.4    |
| Employment                  | 14,250 | 14,488 | 14,427 | 16,865 | 16,683 | 15,861 | 15,372 | 17,176 | 17,189 | 17,729 | 16,664 |

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2007



## Economic Development

Latah County is seeing steady growth in new businesses. The number of private-sector employers grew 13 percent from 919 in 1997 to 1,036 in 2007. The construction industry added the most new businesses, 45. Other growing sectors include health care, (15 businesses); scientific and technical consulting (9); trucking companies (6); and employment agencies (5).

The Latah Economic Development Council works to increase the number and quality of jobs. With the University of Idaho and the City of Moscow, it created the Alturas Technology Park, an incubator for technology-based businesses interested in locating near the university.

## Major Employers

|                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| Bennett Lumber Products               |
| City of Moscow                        |
| Good Samaritan Society (nursing home) |
| Gritman Medical Center                |
| Latah County                          |
| Moscow School District 281            |
| Rosauers Super Markets                |
| Wal-Mart Associates Inc.              |
| Winco Foods                           |
| University Inn – Best Western         |
| University of Idaho                   |
| U.S. Forest Service                   |

## Occupational Wages\* Starting Pay

|                                 |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Accountants                     | \$16.00 |
| Bookkeepers                     | \$8.50  |
| Carpenters, Journey-Level       | \$15.20 |
| Cashiers                        | \$7.50  |
| Child Care Workers              | \$7.00  |
| Computer Techs                  | \$14.00 |
| Dental & Health Care Assistants | \$10.50 |
| Janitors                        | \$8.20  |
| Nurses, Registered              | \$19.20 |
| Salespersons, Retail            | \$7.50  |
| Secretaries                     | \$9.75  |
| Teachers                        | \$17.00 |
| Truck Drivers, Heavy            | \$13.75 |

\* Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor Web site at [lmi.idaho.gov](http://lmi.idaho.gov).

| Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1997, 2006, & 2007 | 1997               |               | 2006               |               | 2007               |               |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
|                                                                          | Average Employment | Average Wages | Average Employment | Average Wages | Average Employment | Average Wages |
| <b>Total Covered Wages</b>                                               | 12,693             | \$20,901      | 14,458             | \$26,222      | 14,034             | \$28,305      |
| <b>Agriculture</b>                                                       | 306                | \$29,619      | 325                | \$40,616      | 319                | \$41,479      |
| <b>Mining</b>                                                            | 22                 | \$30,981      | 19                 | \$30,396      | 18                 | \$33,299      |
| <b>Construction</b>                                                      | 417                | \$21,761      | 640                | \$28,439      | 611                | \$29,289      |
| <b>Manufacturing</b>                                                     | 392                | \$29,573      | 421                | \$38,923      | 424                | \$39,367      |
| <b>Trade, Utilities, &amp; Transportation</b>                            | 2,363              | \$16,285      | 2,430              | \$21,284      | 2,251              | \$23,015      |
| <b>Information</b>                                                       | 276                | \$23,749      | 221                | \$26,033      | 273                | \$34,066      |
| <b>Financial Activities</b>                                              | 371                | \$19,077      | 476                | \$28,247      | 479                | \$29,590      |
| <b>Professional and Business Services</b>                                | 530                | \$22,505      | 714                | \$31,849      | 682                | \$34,753      |
| <b>Educational and Health Services</b>                                   | 1,181              | \$19,939      | 1,500              | \$23,115      | 1,525              | \$24,762      |
| <b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>                                           | 1,541              | \$7,053       | 1,822              | \$8,993       | 1,835              | \$9,404       |
| <b>Other Services</b>                                                    | 349                | \$16,205      | 327                | \$20,286      | 318                | \$22,357      |
| <b>Government</b>                                                        | 4,947              | \$26,444      | 5,565              | \$32,247      | 5,299              | \$35,420      |

| Per Capita Income     | 1997     | 1998     | 1999     | 2000     | 2001     | 2002     | 2003     | 2004     | 2005     | 2006     |
|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>Latah County</b>   | \$18,271 | \$19,528 | \$20,160 | \$21,230 | \$22,707 | \$23,422 | \$23,321 | \$24,944 | \$25,483 | \$26,980 |
| <b>State of Idaho</b> | \$20,648 | \$21,789 | \$22,786 | \$24,077 | \$25,024 | \$25,221 | \$25,524 | \$27,361 | \$28,301 | \$29,920 |
| <b>United States</b>  | \$25,334 | \$26,883 | \$27,939 | \$29,843 | \$30,574 | \$30,821 | \$31,504 | \$33,123 | \$34,757 | \$36,714 |

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



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